

HIGHLIGHTS OF SCOTLAND

ITINERARY

DAY

1

DAY 1: WELCOME TO EDINBURGH

When you arrive in Scotland, make your way into Edinburgh city centre where your hotel will be located. Many travellers opt to take a taxi or use public transport, but for a more direct and comfortable ride, we will be happy to organise a private airport transfer for you.

For those arriving early in the day, we recommend spending the afternoon walking through the city, strolling along the Royal Mile and exploring the Old Town and New Town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. There are also plenty of museums and landmarks to visit in the city centre, including the majestic Edinburgh Castle. For a spectacular view over the city we recommend going up Calton Hill. Tonight you can enjoy dinner at one of Edinburgh's many gourmet restaurants and spend the evening at your leisure.

Spend the night at **Nira Caledonia** or similar.

HIGHLIGHTS: Calton Hill - Edinburgh - Edinburgh Castle - Edinburgh New Town - Edinburgh Old Town - The Grassmarket - The Royal Mile & St Giles Cathedral

DAY

2

DAY 2: FISHING VILLAGES OF FIFE & ST ANDREWS

Today, your guide will pick you up to start your epic trip around Scotland. The tour will start with a drive across the Firth of Forth, taking in the magnificent UNESCO World Heritage Forth Rail Bridge, to join the scenic Fife coastal route. The first stop will be the delightful village of Falkland to visit its Renaissance palace, before passing through a series of enchanting fishing villages, including Anstruther, Elie and St Monans. We will end the day by visiting the historic town of St Andrews, famous for being the home of golf and home to the oldest university in Scotland. It has a stunning shoreline, with three beaches, and mysterious castle and cathedral ruins. Tonight, we will enjoy dinner at the hotel together.

Spend the night at **Rufflets Hotel** or similar.

Included:

- Entrance to Falkland Palace
- Breakfast at your hotel
- Dinner at the hotel restaurant

Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 8 Hours

HIGHLIGHTS: Falkland - Forth Railway Bridge - St Andrews

DAY

3

DAY 3: INTO THE SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS

Today we head north into the Highlands to Inverness. The scenery will gradually become more dramatic, with high rolling mountains and wild landscapes. On the way, we'll have the opportunity to go for a forest walk at the picturesque Hermitage, followed by a visit of the nearby Dunkeld, a charming village of great significance in ancient times. From there we will continue through the Cairngorms National Park where we will stop at the Highland Folk Museum. Arriving near Inverness, we will stop to visit the Battlefield of Culloden Moor, where the last battle on British soil occurred in 1746, marking "the beginning of the end for the Highlands." Nearby we will also visit the mysterious Clava Cairns, a series of tombs and standing stones dating back roughly 4,000 years. Tonight, we will enjoy dinner at the hotel together.

Spend the night at **Bunchrew House Hotel** or similar.

Included:

- Entrance to Highland Folk Museum
- Entrance to the Battlefield of Culloden
- Breakfast at your hotel
- Dinner at the hotel restaurant

Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 8 Hours

HIGHLIGHTS: Cairngorms National Park - Clava Cairns - Culloden Battlefield & Visitor Centre - Dunkeld - Highland Folk Museum - The Hermitage

DAY
4

DAY 4: LOCH NESS, CASTLES & ISLE OF SKYE

Today we will experience some of Scotland's most famous attractions. Our guide will drive us along the shores of the mysterious Loch Ness, where we will have a chance to take photos and see if we can catch a glimpse of Nessie. Next up the guide will make a stop at the iconic Eilean Donan Castle, a sight you will surely recognise from films.

This afternoon we will make our way over to the Isle of Skye and set sail on a Misty Isle boat tour on Loch Coruisk in the heart of the Cuillin Hills. This will be a great photography and sightseeing opportunity for bird watchers and marine lovers, as we may spot marine wildlife such as minke whales, seals and dolphins as well as giant sea eagles which soar above these parts. Tonight, you can spend the evening and enjoy dinner at your leisure.

Spend the night at **Hotel Eilean Iarmain** or similar.

Included:

- Misty Isle boat tour
- Breakfast at your hotel

Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 8 Hours (including a 1 hour & 45 minute boat tour)

HIGHLIGHTS: Cuillin Mountains - Eilean Donan Castle - Isle of Skye - Loch Coruisk - Loch Ness

DAY
5

DAY 5: THE WONDERS OF THE ISLE OF SKYE

Today we will have a full day to take in the magic of Skye, a haven for nature lovers. Our guide will take us to the northern part of the island, to the breathtaking Trotternish Peninsula. This is where so many of the island's mythical and spectacular landscapes lie.

Driving over the Quiraing, we will be able to admire some of the jaw-dropping natural sights. We'll also take a walk to the gorge overlooking Lealt Falls, see waterfalls plunging over the 90-meter Kilt Rock sea cliffs, pass by the iconic "The Old Man of Storr" rock pinnacle, and we'll even be able to go looking for dinosaur footprints at the An Corran Beach at Staffin. Tonight, we will enjoy dinner at the hotel together.

Spend another night at the **Hotel Eilean Iarmain** or similar.

Included:

- Guided walk at Lealt Falls (20 minutes)
- Breakfast at your hotel
- Dinner at the hotel restaurant

Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 8 hours

HIGHLIGHTS: Kilt Rock & Mealt Falls - Old Man of Storr - Quiraing - Staffin & An Corran Beach

DAY
6

DAY 6: SCOTTISH WILDLIFE & GLENNEAMON

DAY 6: SCOTTISH WILDLIFE & GLENFINNAN

Today we take the ferry from Armadale to Mallaig on mainland Scotland. On the drive down to Loch Lomond, we'll stop by the stunning Camusdarach Beach where we'll have some time to admire its white sand and crystal-clear water. We will then drive to Glenfinnan where you can visit the Glenfinnan Monument, overlooking the beautiful Loch Shiel, and admire the Glenfinnan Viaduct high above, which you may recognise from the Harry Potter film series. Later, we will travel through Glen Coe, Scotland's most famous valley. Here, we will go on a guided 20-minute walk, a perfect chance to take photos. Tonight, we will enjoy a farewell dinner together at the hotel.

Spend the night at **Loch Lomond Arms Hotel*** or similar.

Included:

- Guided walk at Glen Coe (20mins)
- Ferry from Armadale to Mallaig
- Breakfast at your hotel
- Farewell dinner

** Please note for arrivals on the 27th of May and 27th of August, the accommodation will be at the beautiful Knockderry House Hotel in the Trossachs National Park.*

Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 8 hours (including 30-minute ferry crossing)

HIGHLIGHTS: Camusdarach Beach - Glencoe - Glenfinnan - Glenfinnan Viaduct - Loch Lomond

DAY 7: THE TROSSACHS, WHISKY & DOUNE CASTLE

Today we will explore the impressive Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park. In the village of Doune we will enjoy a tour and tasting at Deanston Whisky Distillery. While in the village, we'll also visit Doune Castle, which is now iconic after being featured in popular films and television series such as Monty Python & the Holy Grail, Game of Thrones and Outlander. We will also pass by the beautiful city of Stirling, which can't be missed because of its imposing castle sitting atop a hill. Our last stop on this tour will be the Kelpies, two impressive horse-head statues that will capture your attention.

Back in Edinburgh, your guide will drop you off at your accommodation. Tonight you can enjoy dinner on your own at one of Edinburgh's many gourmet restaurants and spend the evening at your leisure.

Spend the night at **Nira Caledonia** or similar.

Included:

- Tour and tasting at Deanston Whisky Distillery
- Entrance to Doune Castle
- Breakfast at your hotel

Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 8 hours

HIGHLIGHTS: Deanston Whisky Distillery - Doune Castle - Stirling & Stirling Castle - The Kelpies - Trossachs National Park

DAY 8: DEPARTURE

On your day of departure, make your way back to the airport. If you would like to add any additional nights to your trip or to arrange a private transfer, you can add the option below. If your flight is in the afternoon, you may have time for some last-minute shopping, a visit to one of Edinburgh's museums, or one last stroll through the charming city centre.

Included:

- Breakfast at your hotel

Whatever your needs, we are here to help. If you have any questions about our packages or services, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Nordic Visitor | Tel: +354 578 20 80 | info@nordicvisitor.com | nordicvisitor.com